



# MINUTES

**North Carolina Aeronautics Council  
August 18, 2009  
10:30 A.M.  
Raleigh, NC**

The August 18, 2009 Aeronautics Council meeting was called to order by Director Richard J. Walls at 10:30 a.m. at the Division of Aviation office in Raleigh, NC. Vice Chair Joe Randall was unable to attend and with no Chairman in place, Director Walls asked Council member Carter Keller to chair the August meeting.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Brian Campbell  
Tom Comerford  
Henry Isaacson  
Carter Keller  
Doreen Richter  
Larry Wagner  
Jay Wyatt

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT**

David Barker  
Cress Horne  
M. W. Mullinix, Sr.  
Joe Randall, Vice Chairman  
Melvin Daniels, Jr.  
Jim Heavner  
2 vacancies

**AVIATION STAFF PRESENT**

Richard Walls, Director of Aviation  
Ted Alman  
Rick Barkes  
Chastity Clark  
Steve Merritt  
Shirley Pearce-Rowley  
Dave Thomas  
Dion Viventi  
Bobby Walston

## **NCDOT**

Jerry Higgins, Public Information Officer

Ted Vaden, Deputy Secretary for Internal and External Affairs

## **GUESTS**

Jay Talbert, Talbert & Bright, Inc.

Lee Hester, Lumberton Airport

Thomas H. Brown, Jr., ITRE, NC State University

Chris Plate, Charlotte-Monroe Executive Airport

David L. Peeler, President, W. K. Dickson & Co., Inc.

Scott Whalen, W. K. Dickson & Co., Inc.

Director Walls called the meeting to order. He welcomed all Council members, staff and guests. Mr. Walls asked Aeronautics Council member Carter Keller to lead the meeting.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Due to not having a quorum, the July minutes could not officially be approved. Minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

## **Business**

- **Funding Update**

- **Federal Funds**

Rick Barkes reported and provided the Council with an update on the State Grant. His conversations with the federal officials advised him he could expect to receive the Federal Block Grant money around the first of September 2009, for a total of approximately \$26.3 million. The breakdown of the monies will be as the following:

\$12 million - Place Named Airports

\$8.7 million - Non-Primary Entitlement

Airports qualified for the \$150,000 per airport for projects

\$5.6 million - State Apportionment

- **State Funds**

Rick Barkes reported and provided the Council with an update on the State Budget. Mr. Barkes stated that he is working through the 2009 state money and projects. He is also working on programming the 2010 monies. He is expecting about \$17 million in state funding for 2010.

He also reminded the Council of the Executive Order # 21 signed on August 14<sup>th</sup> by Gov. Perdue ordering the Office of State Budget and Management to reduce monthly allotments by five percent of each State Agency's certified budget.

Mr. Barkes anticipates having a list of projects and money amounts ready to present to the Council at next month's meeting.

Several Council members had questions.

A questions/answers session followed.

- The prioritization system was explained by Director Walls.
  - Rick stated that there are 780 grant requests on the list.
  - Rick reported that there are 61 GA Airports in the State of NC.
  - Rick stated that around the first of the year (2010), the development section will again be starting a series of “learning and informational” meetings at airports across North Carolina. These meeting were held several years ago. The Aeronautics Council members were invited to attend the meetings, held in their congressional districts.
  - Safety Issues were discussed and is expected to be a top priority.
- ACE Camp – No Report
  - Next Gen – No Report

### **New Business**

- North Carolina – Southern Region Report (copy of presentation attached)  
Dion Viventi, Project Manager provided a full report on last year’s funding for airports in his territory, explaining the implementation and how the funding for his airports used the allocations of money.
- **2009 Small Community Air Service**  
Dave Thomas provided an update on the Small Community Air Service (SCAS) grant.
  - Mr. Thomas and Ted Alman are now working on a new grant application seeking a USDOT Grant for approximately \$350,000 - \$400,000 for Air Service Development Program at selected cities, focusing on reliever airports for On Demand Air Service. The application should be ready and will be sent to the USDOT in a week or so.
- **Upcoming Events**  
Director Walls reported on the upcoming:
  - NASAO convention scheduled for September 12-15 in Tucson, Arizona was discussed. Due to the budget restrictions, travel to this event is still in question.
- Invitation from Sanford-Lee County Airport to host a Council meeting was discussed with the Council and a decision will be decided upon at a later date.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Walls reported on the following:

- Aeronautics Council members update. Mr. Jim Heavner, a Chapel Hill resident, has replaced Steve Zaytoun. Jack Dellinger asked not to be reappointed and will not be attending any future meetings. Chairman Dudley Humphrey doesn't wish to be reappointed and will not be attending any future meeting. Other members up for reappointment, no update at this time.
- He talked about Commerce issues. Preparing a Runway spreadsheet showing the length of the airport runways and hangar spaces for lease for companies who are interest in bringing their business to North Carolina.
- He talked about his meeting in Burlington, where he met Representative Brad Miller and his letter to Representative Miller.
- He talked about the upcoming meeting in Kinston, at GTP on 8/27. Senator Richard Burr will be attending this meeting. He looks forward to meeting him and wants the Senator to know that we were "First in Flight" and we want to be "First in Aerospace".
- He spoke of his Macon County meeting on 8/20. Attendees will be FAA, DOT and DOA.
- He will be attending the NCAA meeting scheduled for 8/21 in Fayetteville.
- He discussed the 62nd National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) annual convention, held in Orlando, FL on October 20-22. He will be working on putting a financial plan together to present at the NCAA meeting and with this plan and with financial help from other sources that DOA will be approved to attend the NBAA convention.
- Director Walls reported the NCDOT Secretary asked us to investigate the Department participating in the Citation Airlift next year for the National Special Olympics Competition in Lincoln, Nebraska. In the airlift, we would assist with the transportation of the NC athletes to and from Lincoln for the Olympics. As we currently own a King Air B200, a most likely option would be for us to partner with a Citation owner and the Department would provide the fuel for the trip.

### **Comments from the Council Members**

Council member Carter Keller stated that now, more than ever, we should be marketing North Carolina. This was agreed by others.

Council member Dorie Richter asked about the Roberson Community College Training. Mr. Steve Merritt stated training is going well with 10 students enrolled.

With the budget and travel restrictions Council member Henry Isaacson asked if monthly meetings were necessary. Director Walls stated he would check on this issue and discuss with Council at the next meeting.

It was discussed and confirmed that the September meeting will be in Raleigh.

Adjournment of the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Council meeting was 11:35 a.m.

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Carter Keller, Chairman

Date

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Doreen Richter, Secretary

Date